

Matten, Ellen

From: Serene Productions [sereneproductions@yahoo.com]
Sent: Wednesday, June 09, 1999 9:17 AM
To: USCodex@dchqexs1.hqnet.usda.gov

Sensitivity: Personal

Dear Mr. Lake:

> I have recently been made aware of a disturbing
> development at the Food and
> Drug Administration as regards the labeling of
> irradiated foods. Under
> pressure from food manufacturers and supporters of
> the
> nuclear industry, the
> FDA is considering a rule that would remove labeling
> requirements for foods
> treated with radiation. The public only has until
> July 18, 1999 to voice
> its objections to this rule.
> Currently, any food treated with radiation during
> the
> production process is
> labeled with a symbol known as a radura (the
> international symbol for
> irradiated foods) and either a statement saying
> "treated with radiation" or
> "treated by irradiation." The rule before the FDA
> would allow manufacturers
> to sell any and all irradiated foods to the consumer
> with no mention of
> the use of radiation during processing. This is bad
> for consumers.
> Despite the fact that the FDA has determined that
> radiation is safe for
> food, many consumers, do not want to eat foods
> treated
> with radiation.
> Radiation changes the texture, taste, nutritional
> value, and chemical
> composition of foods. Radiation creates a heretofore
> unseen class of unique
> radiolytic products that have never been tested for
> their possible
> carcinogenic effects on humans. Furthermore, there
> are
> no long-term studies
> on the health effects of irradiated food.
> This is a clear-cut issue of consumers having the
> right-to-know what is in
> their food and how the food is processed. We know
> what
> the fat, protein,
> carbohydrate, and vitamin content is in our food,
> why
> should we not know

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> whether our food has been treated with radiation
> emanating from some of the
> most deadly substances known to man? Please write a
> letter to the FDA asking
> them to continue requiring that irradiated food is
> clearly labeled.

> Sincerely,

> Stacey Elin Rossi

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